AMERICAN FARMER.

RURAL ECONOMY, INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS, PRICE CURRENT.

" *O fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint*
" *Agricolas.*" . . . . . VIRG.

VOL. III. BALTIMORE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1821. NUM. 30.

AGRICULTURE.

From the London Farmer's Journal.

HOLKHAM GRAND ANNUAL SHEEP-SHEARING MEETING, &c.

(Continued from page 226.)

Mr. Honeywood, in returning thanks, observed that he should not enter into the discussion whether Kent was a garden. It certainly produced a great deal of fruit, but it also produced a great deal of excellent wheat and other grain. He was very sensible of the merits of Norfolk, as a grain county, and congratulated Mr. Coke on the share he had had, which was a large one, in establishing these merits (*applause.*) As for Kent, besides gooseberries and filberts, it produced a large quantity of hops, which united with Norfolk barley, made excellent ale (*a general laugh.*) But some things he had witnessed in Norfolk, particularly in the neighborhood of Holkham, which he had not seen in Kent, and could not presume to equal; he had seen Devon cattle at two years old, as big as those elsewhere usually were at three; and the three year olds, equal to others at four. He could not but be gratified at such a sight, for it reminded him of his own deficiency, and he hoped to go back and improve from the facts he had witnessed. After adding a general encomium on the agriculture of Holkham, and expressing his most grateful thanks to Mr. Coke for the important lessons he had so long taught; he concluded by thanking the company for the honor they had conferred on him.

Mr Coke then gave "The Plough, and the good use of it;" and proceeded to introduce the health of Mr. Bennett, by adverting to the old controversy on the merits of the Merinos. The breeders, he observed, had dropped off one by one, and there were now so few left, that he had the honor to see but two in the room; they, to be sure, were both celebrated ones, and besides were men of exceeding good abilities, and he doubted not but that they would ably defend the stock to which they had so long adhered. Some people said they could not sell the wool; of this he knew nothing; perhaps the gentlemen present had sold theirs, and if not, he believed they would give a good reason for it (*laughter.*) But when they had sold the wool, the carcase remained to be disposed of at some price; and that would not be difficult if they could get any body to eat the mutton. But in these times, he believed, mutton was as hard to sell as wool, and that which was bad made almost nothing. Notwithstanding these objections, he doubted not but they should hear a good account, and spirited defence of this long tried breed, which for his part he had long laid aside as unprofitable. He had tried them fairly, and after five years, he thought his experience was sufficient, and he parted with them. He believed he had the good fortune to make up his resolution while they were yet saleable, and he owned he was a little surprized that some persons kept theirs still; but whether it was because they could not get rid of them, he really did not know (*laughter.*) Mr. Coke then stated his experience with the Downs, which breed had afforded him the highest satisfaction, and he recommended them to all those about him as a much more profitable and better race of animals. It was well known that he never recommended any thing but from experience, and what he believed to be for the good of the farmer who had rent to pay, although it was difficult to tell them how to pay it now (*applause.*) Mr. Coke then adverted to the many Scotch cattle bought and fed in Norfolk, which he wondered that the graziers should prefer to the Devons, which he considered to be in all respects superior Great many of the former were heavy in bone, and as we could not eat bone, it could be no recommendation Mr. Coke then gave the health of "Mr. Bennett," (M. P for Wilts,) with three times three, which was drank with great applause.

Mr. Bennett in returning thanks, went at great length into the disputed points between the Merinos and Downs; he adhered to the former because he was convinced they were the more profitable; and stated all the particulars of weight of wool, price, and car case. He insisted upon their hardy habits, their merits for folding, and said he could keep three Merinos to two Downs. He took them up with a full determination to do the best that lay in his power to improve them, because they had some remarkable good qualities, and particularly the admirable fleece which they carried, which was of such excellence that it became a most interesting object to improve such a race, as the Downs had been improved, which he thought was quite practicable. In short, as the same breed was not adapted to every soil, so the Merinos were a hardy race and adapted to light land: they were great travellers, and would walk far to the fold: though the carcases were inferior at present, we may add the wool; and if that will not do, add three fleeces to two, or 18 lbs. to 5 or 6; and if that will not do, we can say two shillings to one (for we can make 2s in the grease,) or you may cut us down to half, (if the case is exaggerated,) and yet we shall stand fair and on good ground. (*Applause.*) Mr. Bennett added, some other points, for which he referred to his own experience, and concluded by thanking the company for the honor he had received, and for their attention to a heavy subject, in bad times. [*Applause.*]

Mr. Coke then proposed the health of Mr. Western, with many thanks to him for his exertions through life for the good of agriculture, and his country; no man stood higher in his esteem, nor had greater claims to his country's gratitude. He only feared, [and he was sorry to add that it had already happened,] that he (Mr. W.) would injure his health, and perhaps sacrifice his life to those exertions which his sense of public duty prompted him to; but he begged him to take care; he begged him to remember how much the country stood in need of such men; for there never was a time when integrity and independence of mind was so much required. (*Applause*)

"Mr. Western" with three times three. (*Great applause*)

Mr. Western in rising to return thanks, begged in the first place to pass by the Merino subject, not as uninteresting in his mind, but as greatly inferior to one other subject which must be uppermost in the thoughts of every one who had to do with agriculture, which was, the obtaining some relief from an oppressive taxation. (*Applause.*) He had himself made an attempt to this effect, which was at first successful, but the ministerial phalanx was too strong, and his object was defeated; but again and again he would make it, (*applause,*) and while he had voice and strength, he would exert both to that purpose. Mr. W. here made a forcible appeal to the public spirit of all classes of the public who had any voice in the representation, to rouse themselves by every constitutional means, to oppose a system of corruption and ruin, which had so nearly devoured and destroyed all public prosperity and real independence. Mr W. added some very animated sentences, which were loudly applauded, but which from his rapid manner of delivery, escaped our slow method of taking notes.

Mr. W. then entered into agricultural subjects, and dwelt a considerable time on the merits of the Merinos; stating many particulars of his own flock, and justifying his course by successful experience. He thought that *five years* was by much too short a time to form an accurate judgment; because certainly much improvement was necessary from the first, which could not so soon take place. His own plan and practice was that of breeding and feeding round, as his land was heavy, and he did not fold. Thus a flock of 200 ewes, would give 200 carcasses to be annually sold off, and would afford about 300 fleeces. Merinos ought not to be put into competition with breeds already more highly improved. Many years had been employed in improving Downs and Leicesters, and it was yet probable that in so long a time, the Merinos might equal them in merit. His wool he never kept over the year, but always sold it off, and he wished the South-down breeders had done so (*Laughter*) From his experience he found the size of Merinos much increased; they were light of bone, light in the pelt, and with a natural tendency to fatten which was highly improveable. The South downs had improved at Holkham, so that they were scarcely like the same breed; and the same expense and time might do as much for the Merinos. Mr. W. added many other arguments and instances to the same purport, and concluded by thanking the company, and drinking their healths.

In rising to propose the health of Mr. Gregg, Mr. Coke adverted to his having been recently at Quidenham, spending a little time on his way to Holkham. He did not doubt but he (Mr. G) had spent it well, and as he knew he was a keen observer, he must undoubtedly have treasured up something to say for the instruction of the company. He begged that his friend, Mr. G. would not be shy or fearful, although the noble lord, Albemarle, was present, but speak out, and let us hear what he had remarked; he was sure there might be a tale or two worth hearing, and his own rule was, that the road to improvement was finding fault. As to the Merinos, perhaps he might say something of them too, for he had a high opinion of his judgment, but what he might think of them he did not know. "Mr. Gregg," with three times three.

In rising to return thanks, Mr. Gregg said, he had neither the irritability nor the ill-nature to censure, and if he had, he could find no fault to speak of: he thought Lord Albemarle's farm was like himself spotless; and never had he witnessed more splendid success, or more perfect management in his life. [Our readers must understand that Mr. Coke's humour in the foregoing introduction, had prepared the company for what followed; for a burst of laughter upon Mr Gregg's assertion, which was made with energy and seriousness, could not else be expected: it was the humourous indications of triumph that appeared in his lordship's countenance and manner, that so highly diverted the company.] Mr. G. added his grateful thanks to the company, and begged to say, that his house lay in the road to London, and he should be happy to see any gentleman in that company, who would find bed and board at Coles.

Lord Albemarle rose quickly, and said, with happy humour, "I beg leave to return *my* thanks,—(not to you, sir, [Mr. Coke] for you have endeavoured to set him on my back, but to my friend, who has made such a *correct* report [*laughter*] of my farm." This was followed by some pleasant altercation, which highly diverted the company.

Mr. Coke then gave "General Walpole," with three times three, observing, that probably *he* might know something of his Lordship's farm.

The general rose and said, he remembered some-

that, or it, and that a great while ago; before his Lordship cultivated it, it was covered with docks and weeds, but that his Lordship had eradicated them. He then adverted to the Merinos, observing, that Mr. Bennett found them adapted to light land and folding, but Mr. Western approved them upon heavy land:—Well—what does this imply—but that they will do upon any land? (*Laughter.*) The General returned thanks.

Mr. Coke then rose to introduce the health of Lord Albemarle He first spoke in the most earnest and feeling manner of his Lordship's worth, and the love that subsisted between them; observing, that every one who knew them must know that the little sparring that appeared between them was only put on to enliven the company: but he could not help relating what happened one day when he was accompanying his Lordship through his farm. Passing by the side of a piece of barley his Lordship suddenly called out, "Who the devil's there in that barley?" His bailiff being by, his Lordship put on some degree of anger [which it is difficult for him to do]. (*applause.*) and seemed surprised [said Mr. Coke] at the negligence or impudence of the fellow who was treading down the corn. I was a little surprized, and sorry to see my Noble Friend so much moved at what I thought so trifling an occurrence. But it passed off, and I found afterwards that it was only done to attract my attention to the field, which carried really a good crop; but they had put in the middle of it, a *short fellow* to make me think the barley was immensely tall." (*Laughter.*) "Lord Albemarle," with three times three, which was drank with great applause.

His Lordship rose, and silence being restored, he began with peculiar energy by expressing his thanks and gratitude to the company for the very flattering and affectionate manner in which his health was always received in that company. "Those who know me best [said his Lordship], know how dear to my heart is the love of such men! Men of the highest respectability,—men to whom the gratitude of the country is due,—men who are the strength of the country—its stay and its support!"—[*Great applause*] His Lordship with great delicacy appointed the applause to the subject of his eulogium; and, here, (added his Lordship) I would willingly stop—because I have the satisfaction of seeing Noblemen and Gentlemen of the highest rank and talent, to whom your immediate attention is directed, anxious, as I know you must be, to hear them on this occasion My friend, however, would not leave me to the full enjoyment of this quiet disposition, but has done all in his power to draw me into a good-humoured skirmish for the diversion of the company; true it is he sent forward two detachments to attack me, but they being aware of my strength, thought it prudent to decline the service: he now attacks me himself, and thus I am compelled to fight in my own defence." His lordship then passed to the playful subject which had been started by Mr. Coke; but here our avocation is at an end, for though we made a humble attempt last year to tell the story of the grey Horse, yet we were conscious that, without his Lordship's face and manner, it were impossible to preserve the spirit of the joke. As we thus despair of conveying his Lordship's humour, so it is impossible for words to convey the energy with which he spoke of his love and friendship for Mr. Coke: from that grateful topic, his Lordship descanted on the meeting, the company, and the happiness which all enjoyed on those delightful occasions; and concluded with renewing his thanks to the company in terms of the highest gratification. (*Loud and long continued acclamations*)

Mr Coke next gave the health of "Lord Erskine," with three times three, prefacing it with a sketch of those features of his Lordship's life and character which have rendered his name immortal and ever dear to his country. (*Great applause.*)

Lord Erskine rose, holding in his hand some folio printed sheets, stitched in a blue cover. "Gentlemen, (said his Lordship), I am sure my noble friend is well aware that no man can be more thankful for the honours he is pleased to distribute, than myself; and I think you will readily believe how sensibly I feel the testimonies of your esteem. To the kindness and partiality of my friend, I have no claim but one—and that is, long and intimate acquaintance, during which if I had flagrantly forfeited his good opinion, I could not have stood here; nay, I should have been unworthy of standing any where,—for those who lose the esteem of the good, neither deserve nor can enjoy their countenance and society. My noble friend overwhelms me with his encomiums, to which I am obliged to submit, and to leave it to you, Gentlemen, to compare them with the events of my life, happy if you should find therein a sufficient resemblance to justify his praise, and confirm your esteem; but formerly my friend used to attack me with a sort of humourous reproach, which I dare say many here will remember. Had this been the case now, I think I could have defended myself; had I remained in that happy ignorance of agriculture, in which I asked my noble friend where he could find sale for such a beautiful field of *lavender*, I had not now felt and known (any better than his majesty's ministers seem to know) the deplorable state of its condition, and therewith the distresses and miseries of the country. Would to God I had remained in that sweet and comfortable ignorance, enjoying the *repose* that agriculture is said to enjoy! But, alas! I am awakened, somehow, to the sufferings of those around me; experience, which they say makes *fools* wise, has led me (I suppose) to feel and comprehend this matter. (*Laughter.*) And I wish from my soul (since it seems nothing else can) that the same experience, or something like it, would awaken those whose duty it is to redress these intolerable wrongs, and arrest the progress of that ruin which is destroying us all. I may be told that I am roused to these sentiments by the loss of capital. Why, what should dictate the complaints, or defend the outcries of farmers, more naturally and better than losses? But are there not others who are made rich by these losses of ours? Are there not others who have suffered no loss, nor abated a shilling of their income, nor met this torrent of ruin with any arrangements suited to stop it, or even to mitigate its force: but have gone on in total ignorance, or wilful blindness, to increase its rigour and effect, even so far as to deny its existence, or to ascribe the proofs that were notorious, to any cause but that which is efficient and true? (*Great Applauses.*) I remember, gentlemen, when this estate was a heath; when these beautiful fields were a barren waste, and then the few people that lived on it were happy; they might not be rich in money, but they were rich in content, because they had enough and to spare, and none harrassed them for sums which it was impossible for them to pay. Well then, now the country is waving with corn, and luxuriant in pasturage, and the people are oppressed and filled with alarm and suffering; year after year adds to their losses, and they behold utter ruin at hand! What is the reason of this? Is industry a curse, and are luxuriant cornfields the destruction of a country? Why then, let farmers return to savages, and enjoy the wild thyme and the heath, and delight their untutored minds with the furze and the broom, instead of golden harvests. Why should they labour, why should they sweat and toil, when all that they do is turned to evil, and the end of their labours is destruction? Gentlemen, I cannot refrain from speaking. I cannot shut my mouth and be dumb, on the view of such monstrous absurdities If I held my tongue, "Even from good words, it would be pain and grief to me." Can any thinking man admit, or by silence approve and encourage, such conclusions? Why then, after dinner, instead of a doiley, let them bring us a Burgundy pitch plaister to seal up the organs of speech. (*laughter.*) Gentlemen, I have here in my hand an instrument—I think I may call it an instrument of torture; for whether I consider the reasonings I find in it, or the consequences which have preceded and must follow it, I am sure no rack could give us such pain. They have tortured common sense in it with the most persevering disregard of all logical remorse, and have defied all consecutive inference as much as if they expected the wheel under the stream to turn backwards, and deliver the water over the floodgates. (*Applause.*) It is true, I do not much understand agriculture, but I understand *flat contradictions*; and it seems that those who drew up this report understood neither. How such sentiments could be so associated, and how they could be held forth as a suitable commentary on the case and the evidence, it is impossible for me to conceive. I must read some passages for the edification of the company, that they may see how ably the matter is managed, and how likely we are to flourish and be relieved from our sufferings by the labours of the committee on the Agricultural Petitions. The report sets out with recapitulating certain acts of the legislature, which have from time to time been framed to regulate the trade in corn as it regards importation; and then proceeds thus:—"Such being the state of the law, which affects, as far as legislative interference *can affect*, the important interests brought under the consideration of the House."—So here, in the very outset, we are told not only what the present laws are, but that no laws can be better; and yet they go on immediately to state that the allegations of the petitioners are *founded in fact*, and that a considerable proportion of their expenses are paid out of the capital of the tenantry! Can any thing be a more striking picture of the ruin of a country? In future editions of our Dictionaries, we shall have no such word as *rent*, or otherwise it must be defined to be a rate or superplus of the profits of land, which used formerly to be paid to the owner of the soil Well, then, turning to p. 16, we find the committee suggesting the *possible improvement* of the Corn Laws; they respectfully hint to Parliament that it might not be expedient to abandon entirely the principle of the existing law, but *to modify its operation so as to remedy*—and so on—the grievances it has brought upon us. Further—"They conceive that this object might be attained by the imposition of a fixed duty."—Who would not suppose that they were going directly to recommend that rational and necessary course which has been so long prayed for? Here are the words *remedy* and *duty* in juxta position, and yet it appears by what follows that they have no affinity whatever, or relationship, to the subject. But I do insist, that the agriculture of this country can never recover without *duties*, commensurate with our taxation, and answerable to the highly protected state of our manufactures. But, gentlemen, the condition in which this instrument confesses us to be, not only requires a remedy, but an *instant* remedy. What should we think of a physician who was called to attend a dying man, and who, seeing his state, was to say to him—"Your disorder is fatal; you are going shortly: but keep up your spirits and have a good heart, and some time hence I will prescribe a dose of physic" (*Much laughter.*) Yet this is precisely the present case: they state and confess the full extent of the danger, and refer the remedy to *future* consideration! (*applause.*) One observation more I must make, and I am happy to make it in the hearing of those around me; in the hearing of men to whom the country are under so much obligation. (*Applause.*) It relates to another species of consolation springing out of this report, which I will venture to say is just as sound and as operative as the others:—"Your committee venture to hope, that from the great accumulation of capital in the country, co-operating with the effects of a positive and steady reduction of the public debt"—and so on. I wish to speak with respect of those in the offices of government; but the man that drew this report could intend nothing but delusion, if he justify and support the conduct of ministers. Here is a main hope of relief rested on the reduction of the debt, and every measure that might tend to that reduction most firmly resisted! (*Great applause.*) Such is the remedy we find, and such is the basis of the relief laid down in this public document. To pay our debts must be an excellent and desirable thing; but how can we pay them when we are poorer than when the money was borrowed? Men seldom borrow when their pockets are full; neither can they pay when they are empty: therefore, leaving this notable agricultural topic, let us consider what

is yet to be done on the part of the public. It is said in Job, "If you put forth your hand and touch a man he will curse thee." So I think the public are so touched, that all districts, all towns, all villages, will join in an universal cry for remedy against evils that are intolerable. This is the advice that I should give, and from nothing short of it is remedy likely to come. Whatever the whole remedy ought to be, it must certainly come of legislative power; for by that have our troubles arrived, and by that they must be cured. Hitherto the efforts of the public have been nullified by those who ought to strengthen them. Members of Parliament perform a constrained duty; they present the petition, but beg leave to say that they differ entirely from the petitioners. Why, then, what hope can the petitioners have from such Members? If we go into a Court of Law, it is no matter whether the attorney and the judge be of our opinion, because the case is to be heard, and decided upon the circumstances; but here you have the allegations set forth, and all the facts substantiated, and yet a course of cold and subservient opinion is to be delivered with the case, which shrivels and freezes up the current of evidence." His Lordship proceeded at great length to illustrate the question with reasoning, and to embellish his argument with happy turns of humour, far beyond what our limits or our abilities will enable us to follow; and concluded with sentiments of great beauty and feeling towards Mr. Coke and the company, for the honour of their attention and the testimonies of their kindness.

"Lord Crewe," with three times three. (*Applause*)

His Lordship rose, and stated, that he had the happiness to be one of the oldest friends of one of the best of men, Mr. Coke. (*Applause*) They had voted together ever since the American war. He did not profess to understand agriculture, and therefore was qualified to say little there; but he begged to add, that if good wishes were not quite in vain, those he would bestow; and if that was too little, he must build a title to their esteem, which had been so flatteringly expressed, on the kind testimonies of the ancient friendship which had subsisted between himself and his honorable host. (*Applause.*)

[*To be continued.*]

From The Domestic Encyclopedia.

On Wheel Carriages.

Few implements of husbandry are of greater importance, or admit, perhaps, of more essential improvements, than wheel-carriages. Hence we cannot but express our surprise at the infatuation of those farmers, who employ large wagons, on the erroneous principle, that a greater quantity may thus be carried at one time; while they overlook the injury which such unwieldy machines necessarily occasion, both in their fields, and particularly on roads, by making deep ruts, and otherwise tearing or breaking up the soil. The principal objection to the use of these heavy vehicles on farms, is their *weight*; which requires an increased number of horses or cattle, that might be more profitably employed in tillage. The same observation is applicable to the common *road* or *stage wagons*: these usually weigh about 2½ tons, and are drawn by 8, 10, or more horses, according to the distance to which they travel. Now, a single horse, of a moderate size will, in a well-constructed vehicle, and on tolerable roads draw 30 cwt. with ease, independently of the weight occasioned by the cart: and it will perform this task for a series of days, months, and even years. But, if the common wagons were laden according to such draught, they ought to carry from 20 to 40 tons; a weight exceeding their strength, and incompatible with their mode of construction. The superiority of small carriages being too evident to require any farther demonstration, we shall subjoin a table, exhibiting the load which wagons and carts are, by acts of parliament, permitted to draw on the turnpike roads; and which includes both the whole incumbent load, and the vehicle itself.

[There are a series of papers in YOUNG's Annals of Agriculture, on the employment of one-horse carts in preference to any other, both on roads and on farms, with experiments on the subject by so many practical men of the very first distinction, that no reader can doubt for a moment on the superiority of these smaller vehicles. In fact, we must give up turnpike roads, if we do not lay aside, and totally prohibit, both narrow wheels and five-horse teams. —T. C.]

	Summer Weight. tons.	cwt.	qrs.	Winter Weight tons.	cwt.	qrs.
Wagons, with wheels not exceeding 9 inches	6	0	0	5	10	0
Ditto, with wheels not exceeding 6 inches	4	5	0	3	15	0
Ditto, with wheels not exceeding 3 inches	3	10	0	3	0	0
Carts, with wheels not exceeding 9 inches	3	0	0	2	15	0
Ditto, with wheels not exceeding 6 inches	2	12	0	2	7	0
Ditto, with wheels not exceeding 3 inches	1	10	0	1	7	0

Our limits not admitting a farther disquisition, we request those readers, who wish to obtain additional information on this subject, to consult Dr. ANDERSON's "*Dissertation on the Means of Constructing Wagons, and other Carriages employed for the Purposes of Agriculture*;" an ingenious essay, which is inserted in the 4th vol. of his "*Recreations in Agriculture*," &c See also the article CART.

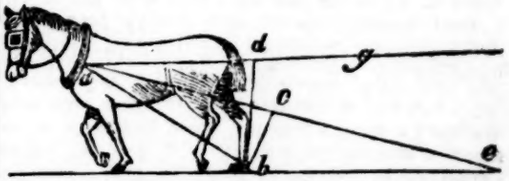
The above table is preserved, from an opinion that the English Regulations may be advantageously adopted in the United States, where it is highly pleasing to see a spirit prevailing in favour of those great sources of riches to a country, TURNPIKE ROADS.

The great importance of enabling a horse or ox to draw with the greatest power, is self-evident; and hence the reader is presented with the following observations, by Mr. WALKER, extracted from his "*Lectures on Philosophy*," 4to.

It is evident, that where the neck rises from the horse, the shoulder-blades form the resting place of his collar, or harness, into a *slope* or *inclination*; and as this slope forms an angle, with a perpendicular to the horizon, of about 14 or 15 degrees, it is evident, the line of his draught should form the same angle with the horizon, because he will then pull perpendicularly to the shape of his shoulder, and all parts of that shoulder will be equally pressed by the collar. The following figure may render this more intelligible, and show that a horse draws more conformably to his mechanism in a sloping, than an horizontal line.

The horse himself, considered as a lever, has in this inclined draught a manifest advantage over his obstacles, in comparison of an horizontal draught, as may be seen by the next figure.

When a horse is yoked to a post, or has any great obstacle to overcome, he converts himself into a lever, making his hind feet the fulcrum, and the centre of gravity of his body to lean over it, at as great a distance as possible, by thrusting out his hind feet: by this means acting both by his weight and muscular strength, and lenthening the acting part of the lever *a b*, he overcomes the difficulty more by his weight than by his muscular strength: for the muscles of the fore legs act upon the bones to so great a mechanical disadvantage, that though he exerts them with all his might, they serve in great difficulties, for little more than props to the fore part of his body. Hence we see the great use of heavy horses for draught.



But the great mechanical advantage of the inclined draught, may be more particularly seen, by calling the line *a b* the acting part of a lever, and the nearest approach from the fulcrum *b* to the inclined line of draught, (that is, *b c*) the resisting part of a lever; compare this with the resting part of a lever, touching the horizontal line of draught, (that is, *b d*) and it will be found nearly double: consequently, agreeably to the known properties of the lever, a weight at *g* would require double the exertion in the horse to remove it, that the same weight would require was it placed at *e*. These advantages, great as they are, are yet so obvious, that one wonders how they could be overlooked.

The obvious conclusions are, that four horses, with each a properly constructed cart, will draw much more, and with more ease to themselves, than when they are yoked in a team to one cart; because, in that case, three of the horses must draw horizontally, and consequently in a manner inconsistent with their mechanism, and the established laws of mechanics. The horse's collar is also drawn against his throat, by which his breathing is interrupted; and in cart teams, (where the horses are not marshalled, as in wagons,) one horse is standing still, perhaps, while another is wasting his strength in pulling him forward. One horse to relieve himself, leans on one way out of the line of draught, whilst another is leaning a contrary way; in short their strength is seldom united.

From a number of experiments made by Mr. WALKER, for the purpose of determining the proper draught, there appeared to be an evident

disadvantage in drawing from above the centre: and on the contrary, a considerable increase of power in drawing from the axles. Hence he concludes as the splinter bar, or point of draught, in most carriages, is placed about one-fourth the diameter of the fore wheel above its centre, it is evident, that a pressure equal to one fifth of whatever weight lies upon it, is actually added to the natural weight, by this situation of the point of draught. For 24 oz. surmounted the obstacle when the pull was from the centre, and 30 oz. were required to surmount it, at half the length of the spoke above the centre.

From Mr. WALKER's experiments to ascertain the best proportions between the heights of the fore and hind wheels; it appeared, that there was little superiority or inferiority in all the variety of combinations of heights in fore and hind wheels. Fore wheels, however, of four feet 8 inches, and hind wheels of five feet six inches, seem to have what little advantage there is. To the objection which might be made against these dimensions, founded upon the inconveniencies arising to the coach maker in altering the routine of his business, he replies it is certainly as easy to fix the splinter-bar under the futchells, as upon them; and I see no great outrage that would be done to appearance and fashion, if the buttons on which the traces are looped, were *under* the splinter-bar instead of being a-top. In these cases the draught would have all its mechanical advantages, and the horses would draw agreeably to their form and anatomy; the pole would have the same command of the carriage down hill, and the same command in turning as in the present method.

[The reader must consult the essays of Mr. EDGEWORTH and Mr. CUMMINGS, and the reports of the committee of the house of commons on the public roads.—T. C.]

Sketches on Practical Agriculture.

BY JOSHUA TYSON.

(Continued from page 226, vol. 3.)

Sheep.—First, of feeding wethers. Purchase in the month of September or October the number of wethers you design to fatten; be careful to select handsome thriving sheep, between three and six years old. Let them pasture the field you intend ploughing up for Indian corn the next season. Sheep I consider very injurious to good pasture land, if permitted to pasture late in the fall and winter, for they eat the grass and roots so close, as in a great measure to destroy the succeeding year's crop of grass: for that reason, I would not let them graze on any field late in the fall, but those which are designed to be ploughed in the spring. In the winter they should have a large open stable, as it will not do to have them housed close in a small place, for they become diseased and will not fatten. Late in the fall, when the pasture has become short, they should have good hay, with a small quantity of oats and Indian corn. When the snow is on the ground, and they cannot get any grass, I have found turnips, cut small, mixed with Indian meal and a little salt, very good. They should be fed three times in the twenty-four hours. Care should be taken to give them sufficient food, but they ought not to be permitted to waste it. By carefully pursuing the above course, your sheep will be fit for the butcher the last of February or beginning of March.

In the above statement I have given an account of my manner of feeding; but, to be more particular as to actual profit and experiment, let me state one instance.

Late in the month of November, 1811, I purchased 20 handsome wethers, at three dollars per head. I fed them in the manner before described, and kept an account of the expenses: and the result was as follows:

Prime cost of the sheep - -	$60.00
30 bushels of Indian corn and oats	20.10
1 ton hay - - - - - -	16.00
	$96.10

I sold the sheep to the butcher on the first of March following for $4.50 per head, reserving the fleeces. They had something above 80 lbs of wool. The account then stands thus.

20 sheep at $4.50 per head -	$90.00
80 lbs. of wool, at 50 cents -	40.00
	$130.00

Deducting the prime cost and feed from the actual sale, leaves a nett profit of $33.90, and the manure they made, over and above a full market price.

Of Store Sheep.—For the last five or six years the dogs have been so destructive to the sheep through our country, that I have abandoned keeping of them. But permit me to state to you what I have done. In the fall of 1812, I purchased 25 very handsome young ewes, at $2 per head. They were pastured in the fall and winter on the field that I designed ploughing for corn in the spring: they were fed on hay, turnips, and Indian meal. I raised 33 lambs. After ploughing up the field on which they had pastured, I turned them into a ten acre field I designed for fallow: on this field they pastured until about the 15th of May. They were then turned into a clover field just out in bloom. The young lambs fed with avidity and delight on the blossoms of the clover, and they soon became very fat. I sold them to the butcher for $2.50 per head, excepting three, for which I received but $2 per head:

So that I received for the lambs -	$81.00
For 75 lbs. of wool, at 50 cents -	37.50
I sold the old sheep to the butcher at three dollars per head, one dollar more than I gave, leaving a profit of - -	25.00
So that the actual profit on 25 sheep in less than one year, which cost but $50, was - - - - - - -	$143.50

Of raising and fattening Swine.—Swine, though a very troublesome animal, seems to be indispensable to the farmer; but with proper management, the raising of them may be made a source of profit. First, be careful to select a good breed. From experience, I know there is an advantage in being particular in this respect. I will not pretend to say which are the best breed: the China, crossed with the English lop-eared hogs, make an excellent stock. Suitable pens, pasture, plenty of food, and care and judgment in feeding, are all subjects necessary to be attended to. The pens should be large and airy: a small portion of the pens should be covered close, so as to keep the hogs in the fall and winter from the inclemency of the weather; and the floor of the pens well flagged or paved with large flat stones, so as to prevent rooting: it is proper to have your hogs ringed; they are then not so quarrelsome: a close pen is injurious to their health. The pens should be cleaned once a week, and well littered with cornstalks, leaves, &c., and their nests or beds littered with clean wheat or rye straw: oats and buckwheat straw are very injurious to your hogs and pigs. A farmer ought to have his pen divided into three parts; one for fattening his winter hogs, one for fattening his small pork in the fall for market, and the other for his store shoats. By attending to your hogs in the manner above described, you will make a great quantity of excellent manure.

I have found the best season for raising pigs for store hogs, to have them to come about the beginning of July, then the sows will have a chance of ranging the stubble fields after harvest, and picking up the lost ears, and, with the milk from the dairy, you will raise fine pigs. They should be weaned at about six or seven weeks old. They should be put into the pen, and fed on surplus milk from the dairy, with a little Indian meal and clover grass: keep them clean, and they will thrive amazingly. As soon as potatoes are grown, a portion of them boiled will answer with the milk nearly as well as Indian meal. Boiled apples, pears, squashes, pumpkins, &c. all make excellent food, for young shoats, and much the cheapest. Every farmer, who wishes to raise pork for the market, ought to have a boiler fixed up for that purpose. It is certainly a source of advantage. Early in the month of May, as soon as there is sufficient pasture, ring your hogs and turn them out to pasture. It is best to have a lot on purpose, with water in it, that in the warm weather they may get drink and wallow: this keeps them clear of disease, which is essential to their thriving. For a few weeks after they are turned to grass, they should be pretty well fed, till they become reconciled to feeding on grass and a greater range of liberty than their pen afforded. After harvest the hogs should be turned into the orchard, that they may get the early ripe apples before the season of cider-making commences.

The fattening of winter hogs is a matter of importance, and by proper management much may be saved. As soon as the Indian corn is fit to feed, the hogs should be put into the pen. Rye, buckwheat or Indian corn, ground together, boiled potatoes, pumpkins, &c. make excellent slop for them: it should be made thick and given to them three times a day, and as much of the soft Indian corn as they will eat clean. Hogs should be fed little at a time but often, and great care taken not to stall them. The last two weeks of feeding I prefer Indian corn only and water. Their pen should be cleaned twice a week, and their bed made of clean straw. Swine are liable to a variety of diseases; to wit, mange, measles, stopping of the issues of the fore legs, &c. I believe most, if not all of those diseases, proceed from the filthy manner in which hogs are too frequently kept. The mange may be cured by sprinkling on the backs of the hogs wood ashes, and turning them out of a rainy day, putting oil on them; or the most effectual way is, to wash them with soap-

suds, and then oil them: after this trouble, keep them clean. The flour of brimstone is said to be good for the measles. I have never yet had a measly hog. For the stoppage of the issues in the fore legs, nothing more is necessary than to rub them with a corn cob, and then open the holes with the end of a knitting needle or something of that kind.

Poultry.—I conceive the raising of much poultry an actual loss to the farmer, especially when his grain fields lie near the house and barn. Geese, turkeys, and ducks seldom pay for their trouble. A reasonable stock of dunghill fowls, just enough to pick up the scattered and lost grain are profitable.

Of Grasses.—Clover has hitherto been the most productive and valuable crop of grass the farmer could raise. There has, however, within these four or five years, through this neighbourhood been a great failure of this crop. I suppose the failure may in a great measure he attributed to the following causes:—1st, We have of late years had cold dry springs, whereas clover delights in warm moist weather till it gets a start: 2d, Plaister having ceased in a great measure to produce its former effects, especially on lands that have repeatedly been sown with it; and, 3d, I think it certain, that from such long continuation of the same kind of grass, on the same fields, the soil may have become exhausted of that nourishment, which has hitherto been so agreeable to it. I have found the best time for sowing clover seed to be from the beginning to the last of March.

Timothy has also in some measure failed with in these last few years, and probably from the same causes. This grass makes the best hay for horses, but for cattle, if a little too old, it is very indifferent food; if cut just when in bloom, or a little before, and mixed with clover and other grass, they make the very best of hay It is certainly a great exhauster of the soil; and land ought not to be permitted to remain more than three or four years under this grass, unless the land be well top-dressed with compost.

Rye Grass. I have had this grass on the farm for near twenty years It is an early grass, and, when young, cattle eat it in preference to clover. It makes a good late pasture, for the early frosts do not hurt it like clover. It does very well to sow with clover; together they make excellent hay, and in good land yield a most abundant crop. I have had above two tons per acre. It deserves more attention from farmers than it has in this country received. The seed is easily preserved.

Orchard Grass. I have for a series of years been in the habit of sowing this grass seed: it should be sown in the fall, just after the wheat or rye are sown and harrowed in. It makes by itself but an indifferent hay, if permittted to get too old: it is best for hay mixed with clover, and mown as soon as it is out in bloom. In a good season, it produces the best second-crop hay of any grass, and makes the most abundant pasture: it continues late, and the frosts do not hurt it like clover. If care were taken to have a field of this grass kept up for winter pasture, it would be excellent for milch cows, and fattening sheep.

Herd Grass. I have to make some further trial of it before I shall be satisfied of its value: it is, however, good pasture, and makes pretty good hay, but not a very abundant crop. It grows better on very poor land and boggy bottoms, than almost any other kind of grass. It may be sown in the fall or spring.

White clover makes good hay and excellent pasture: the difficulty of procuring the seed is, no doubt, the reason why it has not been more cultivated. It certainly deserves more attention from the farmer. It is much to be regretted, that hitherto there has been so little attention paid to the selecting and cultivating the various species of natural grasses with which this country abounds, so as to discover their respective and comparative virtues and value. This subject might be a source af amusement to the gentleman farmer, as well as become the means of great improvement to the country.

Of Green Grass. This is a native, and the most nutritious of any of the kinds of grass for fattening cattle. It requires a good soil to thrive well in. From the experiments I have made, I feel confident there is much more might be done towards its propagation than hitherto has been done, for it has been almost left to chance: but the collecting the seed and regularly sowing it is of the greatest importance.

Of the Barn-Yard and Sheds.—The barn-yard should be large and enclosed with a stone wall of sufficient height to keep the cattle from jumping out. A strong rail fence answers pretty well for a time, but is liable to be broken down; that upon the whole, the stone wall where stone can be easily procured, is the cheapest. Sheds, to feed under and to shelter the cattle from the north and north-east winter storms, and to keep the manure under, are of much importance. In cleaning of the stables, it is an advantage to mix the dung of the cattle and horses together. The cattle tramping it promotes the too early fermentation, which is a great loss. Dung should not be permitted to ferment until a little before you want to use it. The bottom of the barn-yard should be nearly level, having a small descent, so as to prevent the water after heavy rains or the thawing of snows, running into the stables. Mr Job Roberts, and some other farmers in this county, have a cistern adjoining the yard, into which runs all the surplus water of the dung. In this cistern is a pump, so that they can at any time water their gardens, corn &c. In the fall the bottom of the yard should be covered about six or nine inches deep with the richest earth that can be procured—the cleaning of ditches or mud from ponds, &c.: then litter it well with cornstalks, leaves, &c. There should be racks in the yard to feed the straw to the cattle.

The manure that is kept under sheds is much the best: two cartloads of such dung are at least equal to three that lie exposed in the barn-yard. It is best to make compost of all the dung; although it requires considerable labour, yet I think it well repays the trouble and expense.

Of Compost.—The farmer should be a year ahead in collecting materials for his compost bed. In some convenient place in or near the field he intends to manure, he should be collecting from time to time, when there is leisure from the other avocations of the farm, rich earth, the cleanings of ditches, mud from ponds, creeks, &c. and all kind of vegetable trash, such as weeds, leaves, even briers, &c. and have them laid in a long row, about one foot thick and twenty broad. To manure a ten acre field for wheat, there should be collected about 150 cartloads of earth, besides the vegetable trash above mentioned. In the fall it should be ploughed, harrowed, and 50 bushels of lime spread over it, and well mixed with the plough and harrow: in the spring, when it is dry, plough it up again, and put on 50 bushels more of lime; have it well mixed as before. With the plough open the middle of the bed in the latter part of May, or sooner, if convenience permits; haul out the dung that lies exposed in the barn-yard; put it on the bed in proportion of 100 loads for the whole bed: level the dung, and from both edges of the row throw over the earth so as to cover the dung up well. If there is not sufficient dung from the barn-yard, after harvest haul from the sheds so as to complete it. In this situation the dung soon ferments, and the covering it with earth retains a greater portion of that nutriment which is the food of plants, than it otherwise would do; which, if permitted to ferment uncovered, flies off into the atmosphere and is lost. The fermentation of the dung before it is put on the land is necessary to destroy the vegetative power of the seeds of noxious weeds. About the first of September, again plough and harrow the compost bed, till it is completely mixed and pulverised: then haul it out into the field in the manner described before under the article wheat. I have repeatedly mixed plaister with the compost, at the rate of one to every ten bushels of lime.

In this manner the farmer will be able to manure double the quantity of land, that he would by pursuing the old fashioned plan of letting the manure lie exposed in the barn-yard until it is wanted. Much of the substance of dung is lost from exposure to heavy rains, evaporation, and from carelessness: if compost is not made, it is much better to have it heaped in the barn-yard, or carted to the field, piled up, and covered with earth.

I am inclined to think that raw dung, or muck, from the stable, ploughed down immediately, will enrich the soil more, than if permitted to ferment and then put on; but there is this very great disadvantage, the raw dung thus plodghed in, encourages the growth of many species of noxious weeds.

(To be continued.)

FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER.

Corn, Wheat and Melons.

MR. J. S. SKINNER,

SIR—Whilst I was formerly, a practical farmer, on a pretty extensive scale, in the western parts of the state of New York, several facts, which seemed to me of considerable importance took place—the result of which may possibly be new and of some importance to farmers in other parts of the United States; and under this impression are

now communicated.—If you think them of any consequence you will use them according to your better judgment and discretion. They respect the culture of *Indian Corn*, *Wheat*, and of *Melons*.

In 1796, I removed from New Jersey to Rome, in the state of New York. I obtained from a friend in Newark, half a bushel of white seed corn, of the kind commonly called *York Cheat*, which *vulgar report* stiles, is frequently used by the millers with *wheat* in making flour—the meal of this kind being not only as *white* as the flour of *wheat* but as *soft* to the feeling as wheat flour.—I planted this seed corn late in May, in about four acres of land lately reclaimed from its wild state; but not the first crop taken from the land—The corn came up and grew vigorously; the stalks much larger than any in the town—the ears generally set high in the stalks—say from four and a half to five feet from the ground—not an ear of which ever ripened so as to be fit for grinding into meal; I gave it to fattening hogs—and the *pork* had the appearance of *hog meat* made from Beech nuts and pumpkins. Subsequently to this experiment, I procured some of the same kind of seed corn from a friend living at *Pittsfield*, in the county of Birkshire; which when planted in Rome, ripened although not as well as other kinds of corn that had emigrated thither by more *intermediate stages*. Corn from Canada, always ripened without having so great a portion of what farmers call at the northward, *hog corn;* that is to say, corn that is imperfect and cannot be made into meal It should seem therefore, that farmers, who wish from any cause whatever, to procure seed corn, should look for a supply to the *northward* and not the *southward* of them. As a farther reason for this, let me state that some years after I resided in Rome, a friend in New Jersey gave me a part of an ear of Virginia corn—I think he called it the gourd corn. He might have called it *horse corn*; as the kernels looked of the size of a *horse's tooth*. I planted it on rich land—the west side row of my corn field—It grew until the frost killed the stalks, at which time they must have been from twelve to fourteen feet high—the ears seven or eight feet from the ground, enormously large as well as the stalks—and hardly fit for *roasting* when the frost put an end to vegetation—all was of course lost. This very year a friend who had been on a visit to Petersburg, in Virginia, gave me an ear of *white corn* very large and fine looking. I planted the corn in my garden. It grew very large, nothwithstanding our severe drouth—not an ear has yet been collected (Sept. 27,) even for roasting—So much for corn transferred from south to north, by *long strides*.

As to *wheat*—I found that most of the spring wheat (that is what was sowed in the spring) was very much injured by *smut*, and the fall sowing was so much injured by smut, as to be unfit for making good flour or bread. As at the time of commencing farmer I had very little practical knowledge, I had recourse to books; and was induced to try several experiments to cure my wheat of *smut*. What succeeded best, was the following method: Previous to sowing my wheat; that is the day before, I had as much washed in clean water as would suffice for the next day's sowing—my method was to take a large tub used for washing clothes, that would hold at least two bushels of grain, and put one bushel into the tub at a time, and put as much clean brook or well water as the tub would hold (with the grain) and stir it well, by which means all the *smutty* as well as other *light* or *imperfect* grain floated on the top of the water; and was taken of with the hands of the operator or by him with a common tin skimmer. This operation I performed twice; that is by pouring off the dirty water and renewing it with clean water, and got rid of all light or smutty kernels of wheat, as well as any *chess*, a kind of *bastard* wheat—But it would not rid of *cockle*—this would sink with the heavy wheat and could not be separated by washing with water. When the seed wheat was thus cleansed of impurities, the same was put to *steep for the night* in moderate *lye or lea of wood-ashes*, until next morning, then put it into baskets (used to gather corn, &c.) to drain, and carry to the field for sowing; and to render it *evenly* sowed, it was put into a wash tub or other convenience and well mixed with *ground plaster*, which rendered it sufficiently dry for sowing and being rendered thereby *white*, was sowed more evenly than it could otherways have been done, and the *lines* required no stakes to guide the sower of the seed —By this means also the grain came up with a dark coloured and vigorous shoot, and subsequently grew better than wheat sowed in the common method; particularly in dry weather; and even when the seed time was moist or rainy weather, it fared as well as grain sowed *dry*—after adopting this method, I had no smutty wheat. As to seed wheat I procured a tierce of *Ibard's* white wheat from Hartford in Connecticut—one remove from Maryland. This was sowed on new land; that is the first crop from being cleared of its native woods—I sold some seed wheat of the first crop, which weighed 66 lbs. to the bushel, being repeatedly cleaned in a Dutch Fanning Mill; yet in a few years it dwindled so much as not to exceed 54 to 58 lbs. to the bushel.—I should therefore recommend, often removing seed wheat from a more southerly to a more northerly situation—and the reverse for seed corn. As to *melons* the same course should be followed as for wheat. Whilst residing at Rome, I had obtained through a friend from Europe, some melon seed, brought from *Malta*—the first year's produce was delicious, beyond any thing seen or tasted; but from being replanted several years, and not taking sufficient care to keep all other melons away from them, they depreciated rapidly, and finally *run out*. *Each kind* of melons should be planted in distinct and *distant* plats or borders, or the wind will, if the *Honey Bees* do not destroy their distinct qualities, by carrying the ferina of one species of melon to another, and thus destroy both. The same observation applies to squashes, pumpkins, and cucumbers—none of them should be planted contiguous to any other vine.

If these observations are not new to any considerable portion of your readers, you will throw them by as waste paper.

Your friend and servant,
A JERSEYMAN.

FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER.

A Subscriber would be glad to be informed by some of the intelligent Millers, in the neighbourhood of Baltimore or Brandywine, through the medium of your useful paper, what advantages the Burr Mill-Stones possess over the other kinds particularly the Esopus Stones for manufacturing wheat. J. M.

Washington, N. C.

The Editor submitted the above to his friend Caleb Kirk, from whom he received the following

ANSWER

On Mill-Stones.

Brandywine, 9th Oct. 1821.

MY FRIEND,

Thy note of the 5th, is at hand with the enclosure on the subject of *Mill-stones*—My health prevented an earlier reply. Indeed I am scarcely able to hold a pen at the present time.

The enquiry shall have my best information on the case, gained by some years experience in the grinding of grain of various kinds.

The main question is, "what advantages the Burr Mill Stones possess over the other kinds, particularly the Esopus Stones for manufacturing wheat."

I can with freedom say they have many advantages, some of which are the following:—Being composed of a cellular flinty composition, and remarkably hard, as well as tough, some are more abundantly furnished with those cavities or cells than others which constitutes what is termed technically, an open or free stone to grind, yet they may be too open—they were first introduced here after the manufacture of flour became of some note on Brandywine. I happened to get of one of the millers, *second-handed*, the first pair that was impelled by this stream, (though out of use now,) they were a close and uncommonly hard stone, four feet in diameter. I turned them to grind plaister and got a larger pair in 1797, that proved suitable for wheat.

They were introduced here from France in blocks or detached pieces, (hence the name of French Burrs,) they are dressed with much care and fitted into an iron hoop, whose diameter constitutes the diameter of the stone from four to six feet mostly, though some have had them made seven; but doubts remain with many millers, if any advantage results from that unwieldly size. The composition as before stated, is a kind of flint of a yellowish cast generally tough, as well as hard, with cells or cavities, that when dressed to a true plane on the face put to work those cells then appear, and form sharp edges so beneficial in the operation of grinding, the stone will (if true on the face) bear to lay down very close upon its work without discolouring the flour, and consequently shave the bran cleaner than any other stone, and at the same time not injure the flour by discolouring or deadening—*provided the face of it is in good condition.*

There is an American Burr obtained in the state of Georgia, of which I have seen several Mill-Stones made, and as I have been recently informed by a practical miller who had several at work, they are good stones, especially after being made and exposed to the air long enough to harden on the surface—as time and exposure has that effect, they are furnished with a more abundant share of small cells or cavities and well suited to wheat especially of the mellow kind, but are unfit for corn.

Nothing but hard and tolerably close stone will stand the constant grinding of corn of the yellow flinty kind; this kind is uniformily prepared for shipping. But it is all kiln dried previous to grinding, which renders it more brittle, consequently grinds faster.

I have known one pair of heavy stones with good force of water, manufacture about two hundred bushels in the twenty-four hours for some length of time together, under the most favorable circumstances being dried long enough to cool and not yet contract a moisture.

This was done with Burrs—But the comparison of the enquirer of those kind of stones with Esopus stones is yet to be answered—the Esopus kind seems to be a mass of chrystalized quartz or spar formed into small square masses and afterwards, or in some stage of formation, jumbled together in every direction (as regards the first chrystalization,) in one common mass and so fixed as to become one solid body presenting an unknown variety of figures to the surface or plane of the face.

I have not tried them, but am ready to believe they would grind the yellow flint corn *without* kiln drying, and for that reason have a mind to try a pair as we grind for the country without drying—and at some seasons in the year it is difficult to reduce that kind fine enough for the most beneficial use of that class who live most on this grain. An open stone will receive the particles of grain into its cavities until they become fixed as firm, to appearance, as the particles of stone.—The Esopus I think would not admit of this consequence.

There is another kind that was used for wheat before the Burr was introduced—they are imported from Cologn in Germany, and go by the name of (Culin or) Cologn Stones—they are a vitrified or more properly a volcanic production, and are excellent for the mellow corn and used through a great portion of country (Maryland and Virginia,) where they mostly cultivate the white mellow kind of corn—they take a very sharp edge when rightly dressed, and grind speedy while sharp—they are furnished with an innumerable quantity of cavities which you are continually discovering in the process of dressing and which furnish many sharp edges to cut the grain—they are dark in colour and will not lay so close to each other in grinding without endangering the colour of the flour. Those cavities appear to have contained air in the liquid stage of the matter previous to cooling—by which process they have become hard, and they answer for rye or mellow corn. There is a plenty of them at the lower end of Calvert street, Baltimore, of every size required. I think they belong to S. Hollingsworth and Son.

In answer to thy enquiries about hulled wheat, I some time past hull'd a little in my barley mill for particular purposes—in the first instance for a Physician, for a delicate case, and since as an article of food for two or three different persons. I suppose a small sample was sent for thy inspection, by Doctor Mease or Tench Cox, Esq. of Philadelphia.

Very Respectfully,
from
CALEB KIRK.

COTTON.

SAVING SEED FOR PLANTING.

To Cotton Planters.

Now is the time you should prepare your seed for next season. Select two, three, or four, according to the number of your most steady and careful hands—set them to picking with *strict charge only* to pick from such pods as are *full ripe*; above all let them not *touch* a *single pod* of any plant on which there is the *least appearance* of the *rot*—Let the Cotton thus carefully selected be put by itself and ginned separately, and the seed from it kept in a dry place to sow next year. By thus proceeding every year, you will cause your crop to ripen early and will have the best quality, and more especially what is most to be guarded against, you will in all probability escape that curse the *rot*, and if Cotton planters generally would adopt this course, I do not doubt but in a few years they might extirpate this their worst enemy. I have now a field of 60 acres that from its appearance a month since I should have supposed would have produced 800 lbs. seed cotton to the acre—but owing to the rot it will not in all probability now produce 200 lbs. If a preventive or cure for this disease could be discovered, the planter could well afford to pay a tax of one dollar an acre for every acre planted; but as its cause cannot be discovered, no remedy can be applied: the only course that offers, seems to be to avoid perpetuating and spreading the disease by not planting any of the seed which comes from a plant that has it, for I believe that the disease is in the root, that is, if one pod is affected, the whole would be. I am aware, it may be said, that on the same plant it often happens that some pods come to maturity whilst the rest are destroyed by the rot, but this does not altogether disapprove my statement. Take the seeds of pods thus gathered, and see if the *produce* of *those seeds* is not affected with the rot.

A COTTON PLANTER.

Jones County, N. Carolina, Sept. 20th.

Why can we not elicit from our Southern friends some information as to the *rot?* Volumes have been published about the Hessian fly, the Weavil and the smut, neither of which are more destructive in their ways than is the rot to the Cotton Planters. A North Carolina correspondent has lately observed to the Editor,

"I am in the habit of frequently visiting a plantation in this neighbourhood of about 150 acres of Cotton—a month or six weeks since the crop looked as promising as any I ever saw—all who saw it said it would produce 800 lbs. per acre of seed cotton. About the 8th of August the rot first made its appearance, but it was not until the middle of September that it became general, it now is spread over every field, and I doubt, if the produce is 200 lbs. per acre. The seed originally came from South Carolina in 1819—the gentlemen who sent it on, were as particular as they could be, but the Planters who sold it to them, must have deceived them, or were themselves deceived—the first year the rot was very bad, but the produce of *that* year is worse yet—this induces me to think that the disease is spread and propagated by the seed—if so, Planters cannot be too careful in selecting their seed, which it appears to me should be gathered from the early ripe and sound plants. Do urge your Southern friends to communicate to you, their experience and information on the subject of Cotton planting, you and they will confer obligations on many."

Editorial Correspondence.

EXTRACTS.

I have been desirous of knowing the public opinion for some years, as to the propriety of sowing apple-orchards in oats. An old and experienced land holder in this county, gave it as his opinion some years since, that he would warrant the killing of one third of the trees, if the orchard was sowed in oats. Three times in ten years, from my observation, he is under, in his calculation. I have had two orchards to decline, and many of the trees to die after sowing in oats within the last four years, and I am of an opinion that Mr. Norwood at the bridge at Elkridge landing has injured his apple orchard, by the same means within the last three years.

The Editor would be glad to hear from any one who may have made any particular observations on this subject.

TRANSPLANTING PLANTS.

Mr. Skinner—The following remarks upon the packing up and transporting plants, cuttings, &c. from a distance, and the after management of them is at your disposal. Your's, &c.

As the introduction of plants and cuttings of fruit trees from abroad, is of much consequence, and many are lost to individuals and the communnity, from not knowing the proper mode of packing them up for conveyance to a distance, and the due management after they are received; and having some experience and success on both for a number of years past, I have thought it might be useful to communicate the mode I have found to be successful. From want of this knowledge, many fine fruits from abroad are yearly lost to the great detriment of our country, and the disappointment of those who send or receive them. A friend of mine the last year, received a number of cuttings of the finest grapes of France: but from incautiously opening the package, and suddenly exposing them to the *air* and *light*, he lost the whole, one excepted; and the same thing happened this spring to two several parcels that were sent to me. The packages had been opened (after a confinement of a month or two) and the cuttings divided and sent to several persons—not a single one vegetated from the exposure they had undergone, their vegetative life being destroyed by the too great stimulus of *air* and *light*. I have several times received both rooted plants and cuttings from abroad, which from not having been properly put up, had sprouted and shot forth several inches—the whole being blanched—and as tender as possible; but by opening them cautiously in a dark cellar, and covering them lightly with a mat for several days, gradually lessening the covering and admitting more light and taking advantage of a dark cloudy day to plant them out—and keeping these tender shoots protected from too much light and air for some time, and gradually exposing them to both, they by degrees resumed their natural green color, and lived & did well; and I have now several vines that arrived in that state, in good bearing, and healthy and vigorous which if they had been suddenly exposed, would certainly have died. From this you will observe that great caution must be used in unpacking them, and that it is the sudden exposure to light and air, that destroys the vegetable life of a plant, after it has been kept from them for some time. The package must be opened in the dark, and the plants kept covered for several days, lessening the covering and admitting the light by degrees, and when planted out the same precautions used, until the plant becomes able to bear the exposure to the open air—putting over it a flower pot, box or barrel, according to the size—and raising it by degrees until you can take it away altogether with safety. If the plants or cuttings when

first opened appear dry, refresh them with gentle sprinklings of aired or sunned water.

To pack them up properly they should be put into a box upon a layer of *moist earth* of several inches thickness, and not too much crowded together, then more earth put upon them and pressed down pretty firmly, so as to touch and embrace them well, and keep out all air, and the cover nailed down, the box being quite full of earth to the top. In this state they may be carried from one end of the world to the other in safety, only using the precautions on opening them, of not exposing them too suddenly, or too early to the light and air. If they are to come from a great distance, and will be long on their passage, a few holes ought to be bored in the top of the box, and once a month or so, a small quantity of water poured in to refresh them. The earth in which they are packed, should be barely moist, but by no means wet, and well pressed down upon them, so as entirely to fill all vacancies and exclude all air. Upon this depends the whole success. Whole plants, roots and all—as well as cuttings should be put up in this way, by which means they will not only keep better than having merely their roots covered—but they are less trouble, and less liable to accidents, as the box containing them may be put in any convenient place in the vessel—and also, more can be brought, than in any other way. The complete covering of the moist earth preserves the vegetable life, and the above cautions in opening and planting them, will insure their success.

The Surgeon of the French frigate Arethusa, while lying at New-York, transmitted for publication the following remarkable cure :

"During our stay at Annapolis, a great many of the crew of the French frigate Arethusa were attacked with the cholera morbus, which was quickly put a stop to by use of rice-water, very strong, with much sugar and a little laudanum in it, drank plentifully. Out of one hundred and forty sick, only one died."

The following proportion of sugar, salt and salt-petre, constitute the famed Hambro pickle, which has been found to preserve meat most effectually, in hot as well as in cold climates.

Six pounds of salt :
Eight ounces of brown sugar,
Six ounces of salt petre

Dissolve these by boiling them in four gallons of water. In this pickle when perfectly cold, keep any sort of flesh meat sunk, and stopped close.

Fluid is particularly excellent for pork meat and will keep beef from becoming over salt, or hard and dry when dressed.

TRENTON, N. J. OCT. 6.

The Mammoth Hog, weight 1352 lbs. is now exhibited at Mr. E. Green's Tavern, Trenton. This noble animal was raised in the town of Nassau, Rensselaer county, state of New York. She is two years and ten months old the 8th of October, 1821, and measures 7 feet 7 inches round the body, and 10 feet 2 inches in length.

New and Improved Loom.

A Mr. Benjamin Wells, of Pittsburg, advertises for sale, patent rights of "Warren's Improved Patent Looms," which are simple in their construction, and may be made for the small sum of ten dollars. "The utility of this loom," says Mr. Wells, "is, that the cloth winds on the beam as it is woven, and the yarn is taken by the same process—a person accustomed to weave on this loom, can weave sixty yards per day. It can be extended to weave any breadth." This we conceive to be a valuable acquisition to manufactures.

Large Animals.

In 1802, an Ox was raised in Connecticut, and exhibited in Philadelphia, which was 18 1-2 hands high, 11 feet from the top of his head to his rump, 18 feet from his nose to the tip of his tail, 10 feet 4 inches in girth, and weighed alive 3326 pounds.

In 1821, Mr. Benjamin Woodward, of Inlaystown, (New-Jersey) has an Ox, which weighs 3150 pounds.

In 1807, the Durham Ox was killed in England. The height of its shoulders was 5 feet 6 inches; its length from the nose to the intersection of the tail 11 feet; it was 11 feet in girth, and weighed, alive, 3889 pounds.

In 1810, we find by Bell's Weekly Messenger, that the Durham Heifer, 4 years old, 6 feet high, 12 feet 9 inches long, and 12 feet girth, weighed alive, 3920 pounds.

A London paper, of 1810, informs of the sale of an Ox, which received a premium of 100 guineas, and which was sold for 100 guineas more, whose weight was 4,200 pounds.

An Ox, called "Capsall" of the Durham breed, exhibited, and killed the present year, 1821, measured 6 feet in height, was eleven feet six inches round, 37 inches across the back, and weighed, alive, 4340 pounds.

We have also seen in a Hallowell paper, an account of an Ox raised in England by H. Pierce. Esq. M. P. which, when rising 7 years, measured in length, including tail, 20 feet 3 inches—12 feet 6 inches from shoulder to brisket, 3 feet between the hips, height 6 feet 4 inches, girth 13 feet; and when alive weighed no less than 4988 pounds.

As an evidence of the value which is affixed to some breeds of cattle, in England, it may be well to mention, that at a sale of Mr. Colling's stock, in 1810, a Bull, called Comet, sold for a 1000 guineas, and afterwards, in 1813, brought 1540l. or 6837 dollars—One Cow sold for 400 guineas, and another for 410.

POETRY.

From the (Troy) Farmer's Register.

The following effusion is founded upon those two beautiful lines in Don Juan,

"Sweet are our escapes
From civic revelry to rural mirth."

A MORNING IN THE COUNTRY.

Sweet are the melodies of early morn!
The shepherd's whistle, or the hunter's horn!
The cock's shrill crowing, and the chirping birds,
The noise of waters, and the low of herds.

Sweet is the song the cheerful milk-maid sings,
As forth at morn she hies—while echo rings
Through the far distant vales, her trembling notes,
While sylvan warbles stretch their varying throats.

Sweet is the bark the hound so early makes
In swift pursuit through woods, and plains and brakes,
For the poor timid hare; and sweet the sound
Of th' huntsman's horses trampling on the ground.

Sweet is the echo, as it floats along
By high-capt rocks, or distant vales among,
Bounding along the mountain's craggy side,
Or where the waters sweep their troubled tide.

Sweet is the whistle of the plough boy heard
At early dawn—and sweet the trembling word
Of village maiden, when she yields to him
She loves, and fills his glad cup to the brim.

Sweet is the viol, and the rural dance,
The tender eye, and gentle countenance,
The soft dear pressure of the tender hand,
As in the circle all so gaily stand.

Sweet is the voice of early love, of bees
The hum, the rustling of the morning breeze.
Oh! sweet, indeed, are all the sounds of bliss
That strike the ear, on such a morn as this.

Leave then the city, and its bustling noise,
Its vain amusements, and its trifling toys—
Fly to the country where the notes of bliss
Sound full as sweetly other morns as this.

JULIAN.

THE FARMER.

BALTIMORE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1821.

☞ ERROR CORRECTED—In the interesting extract made from the letter of P. Colt, Esq. in No. 28—he is there made to state, that he removed from Paterson, in Jersey, to Rome, in the state of New-York, in the year 1776, instead of 1796—In the year 1773, all that part of New York, northwardly and westwardly of Tryon county, now Montgomery county, was a savage wilderness, and inhabited by the six nations, and the wild beasts which they hunted. It is now thickly settled by intelligent Farmers, Mechanicks and Manufacturers of every description.

The article in this paper on wheel carriages was intended as an appendix to the communication of Gideon Davis in the last Farmer. It is taken from a very valuable work lately published by Abraham Small, an eminent Bookseller of Philadelphia—to wit: "The Domestic Encyclopedia," by A. F. M. Willich, M. D. second American Edition with additions—by Thomas Cooper, Esq M. D.

PRICES CURRENT.

Flour from the wagons, $5 75 to $5 87½—Whiskey from do 30 cts. exclusive of bbl—Wheat, white, $1 16 to 1 17—Red, do. $1 12½ a $1 15—Corn, white 55 cts.—yellow 56.—Rye, 60 cts. Oats, 31a33 cts—Barley, 55 a 57 cts.—Hay, pr ton 12 a $14—Straw do. $8—Live Cattle, $5 a 6 50—Codfish, per quintal, wholesale, $3, retail 3 50 a $4—N. E. Beans pr bushel $1 12½—do. Peas, 75 cts—Prime Beef, $9—Prime Pork, $10a11—Mess, $15—Plaster in stone $6 pr ton—do, ground, $1 37½ pr barrel, 33 cts. per bushel, $8 per ton—American White Lead, $12 50—Ground do. 13 a 14—Linseed Oil, 75 cents—Feathers, 40 a 45 cents—Shad, new, $6—Herrings, $2 a $2 25, declining—Fine Salt, 45 cents per bushel—Ground Alum do 55 a 60.—St Ubes, 60—Cadiz, 50 a 55.—Turk's Island, 75.—Beef, prime ps. 8 a 10 cts—Hams, 10 a 12 cts—Middlings, 10 cts—Butter, 25 cents—Eggs, 12½ cts. per dozen—Cheese, 8 a 10 cts per pound.

NORTH-CAROLINA STAPLES.—Tar $1 75, cargo price, plenty Turpentine, soft, $1 75 a 1 87 do—Hard, $1 25 a 1 37—Spirits Turpentine, 30 cents—Varnish, nominally, 25 cents, no sales—Rosin, $1 25, nominally, no demand—Pitch scarce, $2 25—Cotton, upland, 15 a 18 cents—Louisiana, 16 a 20—Alabama, 14 a 16 cents.

MARYLAND TOBACCO—6 hhds good red from Calvert, 4 first at $8—2 seconds, at $5—Inferior, first at $5, seconds, $2 50, dull, first at $4—seconds, $1 50.

KENTUCKY TOBACCO, 10 hhds sold the present week at $5

VIRGINIA TOBACCO—No sales.

PUBLISHED BY JOHN S. SKINNER.